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*Case of smallpox in Alexandria, Va.*ALEXANDRIA, VA., *December 27, 1898.*

SIR: I have to report to you finding of 1 case of variola (confluenta) here this date. So far have been able to trace this case to infection derived from a ragpicker in a junk shop. I have reason to believe that these rags were received from Norfolk; will, however, report further to you on information which the mayor has promised me to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

HAMILTON P. HOWARD,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *December 28, 1898.*

SIR: I have to report to-day, in connection with my communication of yesterday, inclosed, that a consignment of rags, etc., from Norfolk or Portsmouth, Va., via Washington and Norfolk Steamboat Company, was received here about two weeks ago. Whether any of these found their way to dealer referred to yesterday or not, or whether ragpicker mentioned has worked for this man, I can not, as yet, state.

Very respectfully,

HAMILTON P. HOWARD,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Smallpox in Alexandria, Va.*ALEXANDRIA, VA., *January 4, 1899.*

SIR: I have to report to you occurrence of 1 case of variola seen to-day, with Dr. Miller, health officer, this case making a total of 3 here; has been affected for ten days. Type of case, discrete; first 2, confluent.

Very respectfully,

HAMILTON P. HOWARD,  
*Sanitary Inspector.*

*Smallpox in Newport News, Va.*NEWPORT NEWS, VA., *December 31, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the existence of 4 cases of smallpox in this city. Necessary precautions to prevent the spread of this disease have been taken by the local health authorities.

Respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH CHARLES,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Smallpox in Norfolk, Va.*NORFOLK, VA., *December 31, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that several cases of smallpox, the exact number I can not ascertain—probably as many as 10—have been found in the city. There are now about 70 cases, all in the pesthouse, save 2 or 3, which are quarantined in their homes. The board of health is taking vigorous and well-organized action in the matter. Medical inspectors are making a house-to-house canvass, and all cases of sickness are investigated. I have been unable to ascertain the condition of affairs relative to the disease in the county, but am of the opinion that it has improved.

Respectfully, yours,

EDWD. E. FEILD,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*